

question with the legally protected sphere of the firm (problem of "confidentiality").

The inspected firm's interest in confidentiality extends both to the physical and the factual scope of the verification measures.

For understandable reasons, private companies hesitate to provide information about their customers, although this could well facilitate quantity control; the identity of the customers is thus considered to be a business secret.

Together with technological know-how, confidentiality in connection with these data is a highly sensitive issue for business firms and deserves protection.

One conceivable alternative is the disclosure of shipment data broken down by countries of destination; this was done during the trial inspection.

3.3. Five inspectors were necessary for the careful, rapid and proper implementation of the inspection. It proved to be useful that the inspection took place shortly after the initial visit. Under these circumstances, it was possible to complete the inspection within a single day.

Should such a rapid succession of initial visit and inspection prove impossible, an international team of inspectors arriving at short notice and without prior knowledge of the facility would require more time for an inspection. Furthermore, this could have consequences for the staffing of the Technical Secretariat.